Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of the claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

~~dynamically determining a power mode with which to operate an add-on component within a host processing system~~

determining a processor usage for a processor of a host processing system;

determining a battery level for a battery of the host processing system;

calculating a power mode value based on the processor usage, the battery level, a processor usage weight, and a battery level weight;

selecting the power mode based on the power mode value; and

operating ~~the~~ an add-on component within the host processing system in the power mode.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the add-on component comprises a Network Interface Card (NIC).

3. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein the processing system comprises a mobile processing system.

4. (Canceled)

5. (currently amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein determining the processor usage comprises reading a value corresponding to the processor usage from a register of the processor.

6. (currently amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein determining the battery level comprises querying an operating system for the processing system to obtain the battery level.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1, which is performed by a driver for the add-on component.

8. (currently amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein calculating the power mode value is in accordance with the formula:

$$\text{PowerModeSetting} = \frac{\textit{Battery Level} * \textit{BatteryLevelWeight} + \textit{Processor Usage} * \textit{ProcessorUsageWeight}}{\textit{BatteryLevelWeight} + \textit{ProcessorUsageWeight},}$$

wherein the *BatteryLevelWeight* = *3*, and the *ProcessorUsageWeight* = *1*.

9. (currently amended) The method of claim [[4]] 1, wherein each power mode comprises operating parameters for functional units of the add-on component.

10. (currently amended) The method of claim ~~10~~ 9, wherein one of the operating parameters comprises how often to scan for a wireless network connection.

11. (currently amended) A computer readable medium having stored thereon a sequence of instructions, which when executed by a processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising:

~~determining a power mode with which to operate an add-on component within a processing system~~

determining a processor usage for a processor of a host processing system;

determining a battery level for a battery of the host processing system;

calculating a power mode value based on the processor usage, the battery level, a processor usage weight, and a battery level weight;

selecting the power mode based on the power mode value; and

operating ~~the~~ an add-on component within the host processing system in the power mode.

12. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the add-on component comprises a Network Interface Card.

13. (canceled)

14. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~13~~ 11, wherein determining the processor usage comprises reading a value corresponding to the processor usage from a register of the processor.

15. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~13~~ 11, wherein determining the battery level comprises querying an operating system for the processing system to obtain the battery level.

16. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~13~~ 11, wherein calculating the power mode value is in accordance with the formula:

PowerModeSetting = *Battery Level * BatteryLevelWeight + Processor Usage * ProcessorUsageWeight*

BatteryLevelWeight + ProcessorUsageWeight,

wherein the *BatteryLevelWeight = 3*, and the *ProcessorUsageWeight = 1*.

17. (currently amended) The computer readable medium of claim ~~13~~ 11, wherein each power mode comprises operating parameters for functional units of the add-on component.

18. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 17, wherein one of the operating parameters comprises how often to scan for a wireless network connection.

19. (currently amended) A system, comprising:

a processor;

a Network Interface Card (NIC) coupled to the processor; and

a memory coupled to the processor, the memory storing instructions which when executed by the processor, cause the processor to perform a method comprising:

~~dynamically determining a power mode with which to operate the NIC~~

determining a processor usage for a processor of a host processing system;

determining a battery level for a battery of the host processing system;

calculating a power mode value based on the processor usage, the battery level, a processor usage weight, and a battery level weight;

selecting the power mode based on the power mode value; and

operating the NIC in the power mode.

20. (Original) The processing system of claim 19, which is a mobile processing system.

21. (canceled)

22. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~21~~ 19, wherein determining the processor usage comprises reading a value corresponding to the processor usage from a register of the processor.

23. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~21~~ 19, wherein determining the battery level comprises querying an operating system for the processing system to obtain the battery level.

24. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein the method is performed by a driver for the NIC.

25. (currently amended) The system of claim ~~21~~ 19, wherein calculating the power mode is in accordance with the formula:

PowerModeSetting = *Battery Level * BatteryLevelWeight + Processor Usage * ProcessorUsageWeight*

BatteryLevelWeight + ProcessorUsageWeight,

wherein the *BatteryLevelWeight = 3*, and the *ProcessorUsageWeight = 1*.

26. (currently amended) The system of claim [[21]] 19, wherein each power mode comprises operating parameters for functional units of the NIC.

27. (Original) The system of claim 26, wherein one of the operating parameters comprises how often to scan for a wireless network connection.